

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



January 20, 2004

Reply to Attn of:

GG

TO: Distribution

FROM: G/General Counsel

SUBJECT: Blanket Determination Regarding Attendance at the Luncheon/Reception
of the One Millionth Second Firing of the Space Shuttle Main Engine at
Stennis Space Center, Mississippi, on January 21, 2004

Boeing Rocketdyne is hosting a luncheon and providing drinks at the VIP site to honor Stennis Space Center's One Millionth Second Firing of the Space Shuttle Main Engine. The luncheon will be held at Stennis Space Center, Mississippi on January 21, 2004. It is believed to be in the best interest of the Government for those NASA employees who are invited to this event to attend in their official capacities and as representatives of NASA.

The event will be widely attended by federal and state elected and appointed officials from Mississippi and Louisiana, representatives from the local communities, and local business leaders. The estimated cost of the event, which includes all food and beverages, is \$15 per person. Approximately 400 people are expected to attend the event, 65 of whom are NASA officials. I find that this event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR §2635.204(g). Because of NASA's interest in the Space Shuttle main engine testing, I conclude that NASA's interest in its employees attending this event outweighs any concern that free attendance may, or may not appear to, improperly influence any NASA employees in the performance of their official duties.

Accordingly, NASA invitees and their spouses or guests may attend the luncheon on January 21, 2004, free of charge.


Paul G. Pastorek
General Counsel